

Town of La Pointe
Special Town Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 11, 2015
5:00 pm at Town Hall
Approved Minutes

Present: Jim Patterson, Mike Anderson, John Carlson, Michael Childers, Mike Starck

Staff present: Lisa Potswald, Barb Nelson, Elected Clerk Micaela Montagne

1. Call to order: at 5:00pm.

2. Review and Discussion; End of 2015 Budget and 2016 Budget:

Budget worksheets have been updated, changes presented by Barb Nelson, including a memo that questions what the Town Board wants to accomplish. Barb has laid out options by working backwards with the total levy options then breaking it down as to how to accomplish that total. Three options include keeping the levy at the allowable limit of \$1,583,966 which would increase the tax bills \$10 on \$100,000, eliminate the touchable designated funds, borrow for the capital purchases, and still have to borrow some for the operations unless more reductions in expenditures occur. The second option was to bring the levy to the 2014/2015 level (\$1,668,884) which would increase the tax bills by about \$39 on \$100,000 as well as the other items outlined in the first option. The last option presented took away the need to borrow or reduce to cover operations, but increased the levy to \$1,730,580 and would be a \$100,000 tax bill increase of \$60.

Discussion on how the Board would not like to increase the levy that much, but some may be necessary and a good way to cover expenses so there is no need to borrow to cover operation expenses. It was also mentioned that it is important to have a comfortable cash balance at the end of 2015 to cover payments and expenses at the beginning of 2016 prior to tax settlements coming in.

Discussion on the possibility of cutting some requests, and reducing the expenditures for 2016 by eliminating the new parks/ roads full time position for 2016, reducing the budgeted Town Administrator wages by around \$11,000, increasing the insurance costs for the zoning administrator, unless they reduce the position to half time, leave \$20,000 in the designated fund that was to be used toward the EMS roof, and borrow that money instead, reduce the library request by \$5,000, include some of the Big Bay Town Park revenue that is expected to come in before the end of the year, and also saving some of the designated funds and not eliminate the touchable funds (which could be applied to the checkbook balance if needed). Those changes are to be looked at and rolled up for the Board to review and see where they need to go from there. The Board is okay with increasing the levy as long as it is as little as possible.

3. Schedule Budget Meetings: Meet on Friday November 13, 2015 at 4:00pm to go over the changes and how it adds up.

4. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn, M. Childers/ M. Starck, 5 Ayes, Motion Carried.
Adjourned at 6:05pm

Submitted by Micaela Montagne, Town Clerk

Approved as submitted, November 24, 2015.